

Message Text

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O R 200058Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 126715

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, TU, CY

SUBJECT:CYPRUS: VISIT OF TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH
TO UNITED STATES; POSSIBLE TURKISH STATEMENT ON CYPRUS

1. TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL DURING CALL ON EUR ASSIST-
ANT SECRETARY VEST MAY 19 REFERRED TO CURRENT PRESENCE IN
NEW YORK OF TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH. VEST TOLD
ESENBEL THAT DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR NIMETZ WAS IN NEW YORK
AND WOULD MEET WITH DENKTASH LATER MAY 19. (CYPRIOT EMBOFF
NICOLAIDES TELEPHONED EUR/SE DIRECTOR LATER MAY 19 TO IN-
QUIRE RE DENKTASH VISIT. IN RESPONSE NICOLAIDES QUESTIONS,
DEPTOFF SAID NIMETZ WOULD MEET WITH DENKTASH BUT AS FAR
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AS HE KNEW THERE WERE NO PLANS FOR DENKTASH TO
COME TO WASHINGTON.

2. ESENBEL NOTED THAT KYPRIANOU WOULD ALSO BE IN NEW YORK,
HE EMPHASIZED THAT, SHOULD KYPRIANOU BE SEEING SOME US
OFFICIAL OF HIGHER RANK THAN NIMETZ, SUCH AS SECRETARY
VANCE, DENKTASH SHOULD ALSO BE RECEIVED AT SAME LEVEL.

ESENBEL RECALLED THAT IN THE PAST THE SECRETARY HAD RECEIVED CLERIDES BUT THAT DENKTASH HAD NOT BEEN TO US DURING CURRENT ADMINISTRATION. ESENBEL ALSO RECALLED THAT LAST AUTUMN DURING U.S.-TURKISH BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON IT WAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT DENKTASH COULD

BE INVITED TO THE US. VEST REPLIED THAT HE TOOK NOTE OF ESENBEL'S REQUEST AND WAS FAMILIAR WITH THE BACKGROUND. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT FINAL DECISION ABOUT MEETINGS WITH DENKTASH WOULD BE BUT ASSURED ESENBEL THAT THE POINTS HE RAISED WOULD BE RECORDED.

3. SPEAKING INFORMALLY AND PERSONALLY, ESENBEL REFERRED TO DISCUSSION HE HAD HAD AT SECRETARY'S BREAKFAST MAY 17 WITH HIRC CHAIRMAN ZABLOCKI AND OTHER CONGRESSMEN (STATE 125957) REGARDING A POSSIBLE STATEMENT ON TURKISH POSITION ON CYPRUS WHICH WOULD BE ISSUED BY TURKISH EMBASSY. ESENBEL SAID HE FELT SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD NOT BE ADVISABLE, SINCE NO MATTER HOW CAREFUL ONE WAS IT'S ORIGIN AS US IDEA WOULD SOMEHOW BE DIVULGED TURKEY WOULD THEN BE IN AN EMBARRASSING POSITION. ESENBEL SAID THAT HE HOPED EMBASSY ANKARA WOULD NOT PRESENT SUCH A DRAFT TO THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY.

4. VEST ASSURED THE AMBASSADOR THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THESE CONCERNS AND THAT OUR ONLY AIM WAS TO FIND THE PROPER CONFIDENTIAL

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VEHICLE FOR A STATEMENT WHICH WOULD REFLECT INCREASED SPECIFICITY OF TURKISH PROPOSALS ON CYPRUS IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD DEMONSTRATE TURKISH FLEXIBILITY AND THUS BE HELPFUL IN OUR JOINT EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A COMMON GOAL.

5. IN THE SAME INFORMAL AND UNOFFICIAL MANNER, VEST GAVE ESENBEL A COPY OF A DRAFT STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE (TEXT CONTAINED STATE 127595) NOTING THAT EMBASSY ANKARA HAD ALREADY BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DISCUSS IT WITH GOT. VANCE

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